

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KNABE AND YAROSLAVSKY

November 10, 2009

The National Recycling Coalition is sponsoring the 12th Annual America Recycles Day on November 15, 2009, to promote recycling nationwide. This is a great opportunity for Los Angeles County to help raise environmental awareness by encouraging businesses, residents, and County employees to commit to keeping Los Angeles County beautiful by recycling and making it a part of their everyday lives.

A key environmental concern that calls for immediate action is the proliferation of plastic bag litter. According to the Department of Public Works, approximately 6 billion plastic carryout bags are consumed in Los Angeles County each year. Single use bags have significantly contributed to litter and environmental degradation. We need to encourage residents to recycle their used single use bags and remember to use reusable bags because of their environmental benefits. Using reusable bags decreases litter, conserves natural resources, and reduces the amount of waste disposed of in landfills. Reusable bags also help protect the marine environment from plastic bag litter.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

Public Works in partnership with numerous cities, Heal the Bay, Earthshare of California, and various supermarkets: Albertsons, Ralphs, HOWS, Top Valu and Valu Plus, will be sponsoring the “Brag About Your Bag®” campaign, which is set to launch on “America Recycles Day” November 15, 2009, and runs through “Day Without A Bag” on December 17, 2009, to promote behavioral change. This is a great opportunity for the County to help raise environmental awareness in our day-to-day activities as well as prevent single use bag litter.

Included in the activities is the launching of the County’s revamped www.CleanLA.com website, which provides valuable information about numerous environmental programs available to cities, businesses, and residents. The website provides access to the County’s ongoing environmental programs that are free to its residents.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt the enclosed “Brag About Your Bag®” Campaign Resolution;
2. Encourage all shoppers to take their used single-use plastic carryout bags to the supermarket or large drugstore for recycling and forego single use carryout bags in favor of reusable bags; and
3. Encourage cities, businesses, and residents to utilize the resources available on the www.CleanLA.com website.

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**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**LAUNCHING THE BRAG ABOUT YOUR BAG® CAMPAIGN
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

WHEREAS, each year, approximately 6 billion single use plastic carryout bags are used in Los Angeles County; and,

WHEREAS, in the United States, less than 5 percent of single use plastic bags are recycled; and,

WHEREAS, the indiscriminate littering of single use bags creates significant litter problems for Los Angeles County streets, beaches, and the marine environment; and,

WHEREAS, each year, the State of California spends approximately \$25 million to landfill discarded single use plastic bags; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles has set solid waste reduction and recycling goals, and is taking action to reduce the litter impacts of single use carryout bags; and,

WHEREAS, reusable bags contribute towards environmental sustainability over single use carryout bags as well as significantly reduce single use bag litter; and,

WHEREAS, Heal the Bay and its community partners, including the County of Los Angeles, have established the third Thursday of December, each year, as "A Day Without a Bag" which urge shoppers to forego single use bags in favor of reusable bags; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles has invited NBA World Champion basketball star Luke Walton to participate and pledge to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the benefits of using a reusable shopping bags; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby proclaim the launching of the Brag About Your Bag® campaign on November 15, 2009 to encourage environmental stewardship in Los Angeles County.

The forgoing resolution was adopted on the 10th day of November, 2009, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles.



ATTEST: SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
By Lachelle Smithman, Deputy